



Alternative Analysis Process

CHSRA Board Meeting
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Christine Sproul (DOJ Deputy Attorney General)
Dan Leavitt (CHSRA Deputy Director)





CHSRA and FRA

- **2001 MOU for Program EIR/EIS documents**
- **2007 MOU for Project EIR/EIS documents**
- **CEQA and NEPA**
- **CHSRA lead agency for CEQA**
- **FRA lead agency for NEPA with CHSRA**





Integration of NEPA and Clean Water Act Requirements

- **Coordination with US EPA and Army Corps**
- **Concurrence Points**
 - **Purpose & Need/Project Objectives**
 - **Alternatives for Study**
 - **Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative**





Program EIR/EIS Documents

- **2005 Statewide System Program EIR/EIS**
- **2008 Bay Area to Central Valley Final Program EIR/EIS**
 - **Approval rescinded; new decision expected**
- **Alignments and Stations locations for further study in Project EIR/EISs**





Alternatives in Project EIR/EISs

- **Alignments & Stations from Program EIR/Ss**
- **Range of feasible alternatives that**
 - **Meet basic project objectives**
 - **Avoid or reduce environmental impacts**
- **No project alternative**





Alternatives Analysis Process

- **Public input before drafting of HST project EIR/EIS documents**
- **Beyond CEQA & NEPA requirements**
- **Before public comment period on Draft EIR/EISs**





Alternatives Analysis Process

- **Briefings, public input, and schedule set with oversight by the Board**
- **Need clear direction for staff/consultant work**
- **Goal:**
 - **Alternatives satisfy both CEQA & NEPA**
 - **Alternatives with concurrence from US EPA & Corps**





Staff Recommendation

- 1. Initial Development of Alternatives for an HST Project EIR/EIS**
- 2. USEPA/Corps Staff Briefing**
- 3. Board Briefing of Initial Alternatives**
 - Presented to the Board as an Action Item**
- 4. Agency/Technical Working Groups/Public Briefings**
- 5. Technical Studies**
- 6. USEPA/Corps Staff Briefing**





Staff Recommendation

7. Preparation of the Preliminary AA Report

- **Posted on the Authority's website the morning it is presented to the Board**

8. Board Briefing of the Preliminary AA Report

- **Presented to the Board as an Action Item**

9. Agency/Technical Working Groups/Public Briefings

10. Board Briefing on Revisions to AA Report

- **Presented to the Board as an Action Item**

11. Revised/Supplemental AA Report

